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REMARKS

Applicants gratefully acknowledge Examiner Nguyen for taking time from his busy schedule on September 27, 2007, to call Applicants' representative to indicate that he considered that the claims would be in condition for allowance if Applicants would authorize him to cancel claims 7-9 by Examiner's Amendment.

When Applicants' representative called Examiner Nguyen on October 1, 2007, to advise that Applicants agreed to the Examiner's proposal to cancel these claims, the Examiner indicated that he had already just completed the new Office Action indicating that all claims would be allowable if claims 7-9 were to be canceled and that it was too late to do the Examiner's Amendment.

Accordingly, by submittal of this Amendment in response to the Office Action mailed on October 9, 2007, Applicants believe that all claims are now in condition for immediate allowance. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application for these canceled claims, if desired.

Claims 1, 2, 10, and 13-20 are all of the claims pending in the present Application. Claims 3-9 and 11-12 are canceled.

It is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 10, and 13-20, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.